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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. There is no Ministry of the Navy in Albania; the command of the Navy is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of War. [redacted] 25X1X  
know the identity of the commander of the tiny fleet.

2. The total strength in officers and men of the Albanian Navy amounts to 300. Of these, about 100 are employed in the naval service in Tirana, and the other 200 are stationed at the Naval Base at Durres. The commander at Durres is a lieutenant, [redacted] 25X1X

3. The following naval vessels, whose crews are included in the 200 men mentioned above, are based at Durres:

- a. Two mine sweepers of Italian origin.\* Each has a capacity of 700 quintals or 70 tons, with a speed of 8-10 miles per hour. Their armament consists of one small cannon (diameter unknown) and the individual weapons of the crew. The crew numbers 10-12 men of the Navy and 2 of the M. R. (sic). These ships are made of wood.
- b. The Albanian Navy also has another similar vessel which had been seized some time ago by an unknown number of seamen who sailed off with it from Durres to Italy.\*
- c. Two tugs of Italian origin. They also have a capacity of 700 quintals or 70 tons, each with a speed of about 8 miles per hour. Their armament consists of one small cannon, of unknown diameter, and the personal weapons of the crew. The crew consists of 8 men of the Navy and 2 of the M. R. (sic). One of these tugs is constructed of steel plates; the other is disarmed and is temporarily used to collect longshoremen and to tow cargo ships into the harbors of Shijak and Durres.
- d. Eight motorboats (5 of Italian origin, 3 of Soviet origin). Their capacity is about half that of the coast guard boats of the Greek Navy. They are armed with one cannon each; some of these guns are Bredas of Italian origin, and others are of Soviet type, but of unknown caliber. The crew of each consists of 4-5 men of the Navy and of the M. R. Their speed ranges from 10-12 miles per hour.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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One of these stays in the harbor of Sarande, and for the past two weeks it has remained in harbor at anchor because of serious damage to its engine; the range of its patrolling is from Cape Stilo to Himare. Another stays in the harbor of Vlone, and it patrols from Vlone-Saseno to Himare. The rest stay in the harbor of Durres, but half of them for some time now have been at anchor because of engine trouble. Their repair is made difficult by the lack of skilled mechanics and the shortage of spare parts.

- e. One coast guard boat of German origin. It has a capacity of 250-300 quintals or 25-30 tons. Its armament consists of 2 twin German quick-firing guns and the individual weapons of the crew. The crew consists of 10-12 men of the Navy and 2 of the M. R. The speed is 12-15 miles per hour. This ship is under repair at Krieneri, near Vlone. It will be a long time before these repairs are completed because of serious damage to the engine and ship, which was hauled from the water a month ago.
- f. Two fishing boats of Italian origin (equipped with motors). They each have a capacity of 40-50 tons. Their armament consists of the individual weapons of the crew. The crew consists of 6-8 men of the Navy and of the M. R. The speed is 10-12 miles per hour. This ship catches fish for the Navy and for the Army.

2. The Albanian Merchant Marine consists of the following vessels:

- a. Thirteen passenger vessels of Italian origin. Two of these are of 600 quintals capacity, one of 300 quintals, and ten of 150-200 quintals. Construction of a new vessel of the same type, but of 5,000 quintals capacity, has begun in the shipyard at Durres. This construction is under the supervision of a Greek from Corfu named Odesseus Manettas who worked there before the war. These craft carry freight for short distances.

- b. Twenty motor caiques (most of which are of Italian origin), with the following capacities:

|    |         |                   |                      |
|----|---------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1  | caique  | 3,000 quintals    | (300 tons)           |
| 1  | caique  | 2,500 quintals    | (250 tons)           |
| 2  | caiques | 1,500 quintals    | (150 tons)           |
| 3  | caiques | 1,000 quintals    | (100 tons)           |
| 13 | caiques | 100- 700 quintals | ( 10 tons - 70 tons) |

- c. Six fishing boats (most of them of Italian origin). The capacity of each is from 500 quintals to 1,000 quintals (or 50 to 100 tons).

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**Comment:** These three are the Albanian naval vessels which some time ago were reported to be sweeping mines in the North Corfu Channel. It was observed that, during mine sweeping operations, the small cannon was removed to facilitate the operations which were conducted with primitive means.

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